## REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated March 29, 2004. Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 8-10, 12-14, 16-22, 24-26, 28, 30, and 31 are presented for examination, of which Claims 1, 9, 17, 19, 21, and 30 are in independent form. Claims 1, 5, 6, 8, 9, 13, 14, 16, 17, 19, 21, 25, 26, 28, and 30 have been amended to define Applicants' invention more clearly. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

Claims 1, 9, 17, 19, 21, and 30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. The amended claims now clearly specify that the print data is generated based on the intermediate code data. Accordingly, Claims 1, 9, 17, 19 21 and 30 now comply even more clearly with 35 U.S.C. § 112, and withdrawal of the rejection under that Section is requested..

All pending claims were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,219,149 (Kawata et al.) and U.S. Patent No. 6,665,081 (Suzuki et al.).

The present invention is directed to addressing the problem that a process to be performed before generating print data by a printer driver, e.g., a print preview process, cannot be performed in case that a drawing command has no font face. In order to address this problem, a case processing apparatus of Claim 1 (to which method Claim 9 and storage medium Claim 21 are similar) has the following features: first acquiring means for acquiring a local ID, which indicates country or area, from a printer driver; loading means for loading a resource file based on the local ID acquired by the first acquiring means; second acquiring means for acquiring default font data from the resource file loaded by the loading means; and conversion means for converting the drawing command, which does not have a font face, to intermediate code data using the default font data acquired by the second acquiring means.

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Among other important feature of the apparatus of Claim 1 is, having display means that changes the type of language of a predetermined message in accordance with a resource file loaded by a loading means. Therefore, the predetermined message, e.g., an error message or user interface for setting, can be displayed in appropriate language even during conversion from the print data into the intermediate data.

Kawata et al. discloses a print processing apparatus having an input data preparation unit 1 that generates input data described by a description language, from document data generated by an application program and a converting unit 3 that converts the input dat into intermediate data.

Kawata et al. also discloses adding IDs to the intermediate data. However, IDs used in Kawata et al. are completely different from a local ID of Claim 1. Kawata et al. discloses four IDs can be added to the intermediate data: a rasterizing process ID, a band ID, a group ID and a hardware configuration ID. The rasterizing process ID indicates information related to a rasterizing process, the band ID indicates to which band the data belongs, etc., the group ID indicaes the group of parallel processing to which that piece of the intermediate data belongs, and the hardware configuration ID is an identifier for configuration data. On the other hand, the local ID of Claim 1 indicates country or area. In addition, the IDs in Kawata et al. depend on objects in input (print) data. The local ID, however, is independent of such objects.

Character drawing based on a character code and font ID is described in column 8, lines 22-63, and column 11, lines 15-18 of Kawata et al. In the present invention, however, a drawing command without any font face can be converted by using default font data acquired from a resource file corresponding to the local ID.

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Suzuki et al. discloses a printing system that shares intermediate code generating processing between a host computer and a printing and thereby increasing printing speed (column 2, lines 22-28). In Suzuki's system, intermediate code generated by the host is called as driver intermediate (DIM) code and that generated by the host is called as printer intermediate (PIM) code. The Examiner alleges that Suzuki et al. discloses, in column 5, lines 10-30, means for acquiring an ID and loading a resource file based on the ID, and converting means of the present invention. However, the cited part only describes DIM code include bit image data and thus DIM code can reduce printer's load compared with PIM. Suzuki et al. does not disclose, not only local ID but also any other IDs.

Accordingly, Kawata et al. as well as Suzuki et al. does not disclose the mentioned features of Claim 1. Claim 17 is directed to a data processing apparatus which, in respect of the features discussed above, is similar to Claim 1, and, together with corresponding method Claim 19 and storage-medium Claim 30, is deemed allowable over Kawata et al. and Suzuki et al. for at least the reasons given above with regard to Claim 1. Therefore, the present invention as now claimed in independent Claims 1, 9, 17, 19, 21 and 30 as well as dependent Claims 2, 4, 5, 6, 8 (dependent on Claim 1), 10, 12, 13, 14, 16 (dependent on Claim 9), 18 (dependent on Claim 17), 20 (dependent on Claim 19), 22, 24, 25, 26, 28 (dependent on Claim 21) and 31 (dependent on Claim 30) are allowable over Kawata et al. and Suzuki et al.; and accordingly these claims as now presented are allowable.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York Office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

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